Schemes for the benefit of Handloom Weavers in Andhra Pradesh

1594. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the schemes started by the Central Government for the benefit and uplift of the handloom weavers in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) what is the amount earmarked for those schemes and the number of handloom weavers who have been benefited by those schemes in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) In order to develop the handloom industry and improve the socio-economic and living conditions of handloom weavers; Central Government is implementing the following schemes in all the States of the country:—

(i) Share capital assistance to handloom weavers to enrol themselves as members of cooperative societies;

(ii) Share capital assistance to handloom weavers primary/apex cooperative societies and State Handloom Corporations;

(iii) Assistance for modernisation of looms;

(iv) Managerial subsidy to handloom weavers primary societies;

(v) Financial assistance to State Handloom Development Corporations and Handloom Cooperative Societies for setting up pre-loom and post-loom processing facilities;

(vi) Special rebate at the rate of 20 per cent on sale of handloom products;

(vii) Janata Cloth Scheme;

(viii) Thrift Fund Scheme;

(ix) Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme;

(x) Reservation of 22 items for exclusive production in the handloom sector through the Handloom (Reservation of articles for production) Act, 1985.

(b) Financial assistance under various schemes is provided to all States including Andhra Pradesh, on the basis of the proposals received from concerned State Governments every year. The details of the releases made to Andhra Pradesh under various schemes during the year 1987-88 and the number of handloom weavers who have been benefited under these schemes, ever since their coming into operation are as under:—

Scheme	Release made during 1987-88 (Rs. in lakhs)	Number of weavers benefitted under these schemes ever since their coming into operation
Share Capital assistance to Primary Societies	65.61	3,35,000
Modernisation	22.60	14,071
Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme.	32.50	6,580
Thrift Fund	12.78	22,000
Setting up of enforcement machinery under States	19.30	—
Special rebate	313.15	—
Subsidy on Janata Cloth	915 95	40,000